

## Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 SAM-01 /107 W

----- 080805

R 051136ZV B 76

FM AMEMDGASY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4930

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 1068

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0115

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: SF, PINT

SUBJ: DEFENCE MINISTER'S INTERVIEW WITH US REPORTER

STIRS PROTESTS

1. PUBLICATION HERE FEBRUARY 4 OF NOSSITER'S WASHINGTON  
POST REPORT OF INTERVIEW WITH SAG MINISTER OF DEFENCE BOTHA  
BROUGHT STORM OF PROTEST FROM OPPOSITION IN PARLIAMENT AND  
FROM ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PRESS. UNITED PARTY DEFENCE SPOKESMAN  
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RAW SAID THAT BOTHA'S PROVIDING ADDITIONAL DETAILS (4 TO 5 THOUSAND TROOPS ALONG BORDER EXTENDING AS MUCH AS 50 KM INTO ANGOLA) TO AMERICAN PRESS AFTER HAVING PASSED UP OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO IN PARLIAMENT CONSTITUTED 'UNFORGIVABLE CONTEMPT FOR PARLIAMENT'. NOTING THAT BOTHA HAD PERFORMED SIMILARLY FROM ANGOLA TO FOREIGN PRESS BUT NOT TO SOUTH AFRICAN PUBLIC, RAW SAID HE COULD THINK OF NO REASON WHATEVER WHY FACTS SHOULD HAVE BEEN WITHHELD FROM PARLIAMENT AND SOUTH AFRICA'.

2. PRP LEADER COLIN EGLIN SAID BOTHA'S RELEASE OF ADDITIONAL FACTS TO NOSSITER WAS AN 'AFFRONT TO MILLIONS OF SOUTH AFRICANS, MANY OF THEM MOTHERS AND FATHERS OF SERVICEMEN'. CAPE TIMES EDITORIALIZED FEBRUARY 5 'UNLESS MR. BOTHA IS ABLE TO OFFER A CONVINCING EXPLANATION, THE OPPOSITION PARTIES MIGHT FEEL OBLIGED TO CALL FOR HIS RESIGNATION WHEN THE DEFENCE VOTE IS DEBATED IN THE HOUSE. THE TIDE OF PUBLIC CONCERN AND ANGER AT THE SUPPRESSION OF ESSENTIAL INFORMATION ABOUT ANGOLA IS RISING SHARPLY, PARTICULARLY AS IT IS OBVIOUS TO THE PUBLIC THAT THERE CAN BE NO QUESTION OF MILITARY SECURITY AT STAKE WHEN THE INFORMATION HAS BEEN BROADCAST FAR AND WIDE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD'.

BOWDLER

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, OPPOSITION PARTIES, PRESS CONFERENCES, TROOP DEPLOYMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Subject:** DEFENCE MINISTER'S INTERVIEW WITH US REPORTER STIRS PROTESTS  
**TAGS:** MOPS, PINT, AO, SF, PINT, (BOTH, PIETER WILLEM)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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